Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2013-72

Sethoxydim

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Under the authority of the *Pest Control Products Act*, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) has concluded that the addition of new uses on Brussels sprouts to the product label of POAST® ULTRA Liquid Emulsifiable Herbicide, containing technical grade sethoxydim, is acceptable. The specific uses approved in Canada are detailed on the label of POAST® ULTRA Liquid Emulsifiable Herbicide, *Pest Control Products Act* Registration Number 24835.

The evaluation of this sethoxydim application indicated that the end-use product has merit and value, and the human health and environmental risks associated with the new uses are acceptable.

Before registering a pesticide for food use in Canada, the PMRA must determine the quantity of residues that are likely to remain in or on the food when the pesticide is used according to label directions and that such residues will not be a concern to human health. This quantity is then legally established as a maximum residue limit (MRL). An MRL applies to the identified raw agricultural food commodity as well as to any processed food product that contains it, except where separate MRLs are specified for the raw agricultural commodity and a processed product made from it.

Consultation on the proposed MRL for sethoxydim is being conducted via this document (see Next Steps, the last section of this document). A summary of the field trial data used to support the proposed MRL can be found in Appendix I.

To comply with Canada's international trade obligations, consultation on the proposed MRL is also being conducted internationally by notifying the World Trade Organization, as coordinated by the Standards Council of Canada.

The proposed MRL, to be added to the MRLs already established for sethoxydim, are as follows.

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limit for Sethoxydim

Common Name	Residue Definition	MRL (ppm)	Food Commodity
Sethoxydim	(±)-2-[1-(ethoxyimino)butyl]-5-[2-(ethylthio)propyl]-3-hydroxy-2-cyclohexen-1-one, including metabolites containing the cyclohexen-2-one moiety, expressed as sethoxydim	1.5	Brussels sprouts

ppm = parts per million

MRLs established in Canada may be found using the Maximum Residue Limit Database on the Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides webpage. The database allows users to search for pesticides(s) or for food commodity(ies).

International Situation and Trade Implications

MRLs may vary from one country to another for a number of reasons, including differences in pesticide use patterns and the locations of the field crop trials used to generate residue chemistry data.

Table 2 compares the MRL proposed for sethoxydim in Canada with corresponding American tolerances and Codex MRLs.[1] American tolerances are listed in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR Part 180, by pesticide. A listing of established Codex MRLs is available on the Codex Alimentarius Pesticide Residues in Food website, by pesticide or commodity.

Table 2 Comparison of Canadian MRLs, American Tolerances and Codex MRLs (where different)

Food Commodity	Canadian MRL (ppm)	American Tolerance (ppm)	Codex MRL (ppm)
Brussels sprouts	1.5	5.0 (Vegetable, brassica, leafy, group 5)	Not Established

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRL for sethoxydim up to 75 days from the date of publication of this document. Please forward your comments to Publications (see the contact information on the cover page of this document). The PMRA will consider all comments received before making a final decision on the proposed MRL. Comments received will be addressed in a separate document linked to this PMRL. The established MRL will be legally in effect as of the date that it is entered into the Maximum Residue Limit Database

[1] The Codex Alimentarius Commission is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.

Appendix I

Summary of Field Trial Data Used to Support the Proposed MRLs

Residue data from supervised residue trials conducted in Canada were submitted to support the domestic use of POAST® ULTRA Liquid Emulsifiable Herbicide on Brussels sprouts. Sethoxydim was applied to Brussels sprouts, which were harvested according to label directions.

Maximum Residue Limit(s)

The recommendation for a maximum residue limit (MRL) for sethoxydim was based upon the submitted field trial data, guidance provided in PRO2005-04, *Guidance for Setting Pesticide Maximum Residue Limits Based on Field Trial Data*, and the use of the North American Free Trade Agreement MRL calculator as the statistical methodology. Table A1 summarizes the data used to calculate the proposed MRL for Brussels sprouts.

TABLE A1 Summary of Field Trial Data Used to Support Maximum Residue Limit(s) (MRLs)

Commodity	Application Method/ Total Application Rate (g a.i./ha)	PHI (days)	Residues (ppm)	
			Min	Max
Brussels sprouts	Broadcast spray/ 451–512	70–71	<0.1	1.05

PHI = preharvest interval; ppm = parts per million

Following the review of all available data, an MRL of 1.5 ppm is recommended to cover residues of sethoxydim. Residues of sethoxydim in Brussels sprouts at the proposed MRL will not pose an unacceptable risk to any segment of the population, including infants, children, adults and seniors.